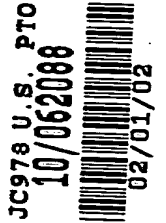


520.30414R47



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): KATO, et al.
Serial No.: Reissue application of U.S. Patent No. 6,314,658
Filed: February 1, 2002
For: VACUUM PROCESSING APPARATUS AND
OPERATING METHOD THEREFOR

CLAIM FOR PRIORITY

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

February 1, 2002

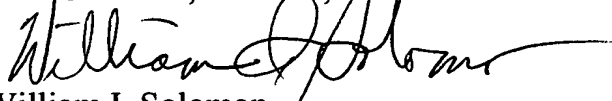
Sir:

Under the provisions of 35 USC §119 and 37 CFR §1.55, Applicants hereby claim the right of priority based on Japanese Patent Application No. 2-225321, filed August 29, 1990.

The certified copy of the above-referred-to Japanese Patent Application was filed on August 29, 1991 in prior application Serial No. 07/751,951, filed August 29, 1991.

Respectfully submitted,

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